

Amendment
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IN THE SPECIFICATION

Replace the paragraph on page 5, beginning on line 19 with the following:

FIG. 4 is a diagram for explaining the operation of a control multiplexer that accords priority OAM PDUs. A control multiplexer according to the present invention gives priority to generated OAM PDUs to preferentially transmit the OAM PDUs ahead of MAC client data frames, in order to solve the problem occurring when MAC client data frames and OAM PDUs are transmitted in order of generation.

Replace the paragraph on page 5, beginning on line 24 with the following:

As described in conjunction with FIG. 3, if MAC client data frames are generated in order of 1, 2, 3, 4, ..., and OAM PDUs are generated in order ~~of~~ of 1 and 2 with priority not being given (see FIG. 3), then the OAM PDUs are not transmitted until MAC client data frames generated earlier than the OAM PDUs are transmitted in the order of their generation, as described in conjunction with FIG. 3.